

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47) today introduced House Resolution 1619 honoring the bicentennial “call for independence” that led to the creation of the independent sovereign nations of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela.

“During Hispanic Heritage Month, we celebrate the histories and cultures of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America,” said Rep. Sanchez. “As a Latina, I am proud to introduce House Resolution 1619, which would officially honor these and other contributions of Hispanic Americans throughout the country. In Congress, I will continue to fight for initiatives that help all families, including Hispanics, achieve the American Dream.”

In addition to honoring the bicentennial “call for independence,” House Resolution 1619 recognizes 1810 as a critical year for Latinos who sought independence for Argentina, Brazil, Columbia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Venezuela; celebrates the numerous economic, historical, and cultural contributions these countries have made; and encourages the people of the Americas to work together to address the challenges they may face during the next 200 years.

The text of Rep. Sanchez’s resolution is available below:

Whereas, Argentina– struggled to secure “unification, freedom, and independence” from foreign rule.

Whereas, Chile– fought persistently to liberate their country with “reason and force”. Chile’s war of independence succeeded after its three part revolutionary history:

*patria vieja, reconquista*

, and

*patria nueva*

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Whereas, Colombia– battled fervently for “liberty, order and glory” to achieve sovereignty.

Whereas, Mexico— organized to create an independent state after *el grito de Dolores*.

Whereas, Venezuela— moved to secure independence for a nation under “god and federation for its brave people”.

Whereas, in the month of September we also commemorate the independence of Brazil, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Whereas, there are millions of Americans who trace their roots to these Latin America countries.

Be it resolved, that the House of Representatives –

(1) acknowledges 1810 as a critical year for the people of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Venezuela towards their march for independence as part of this year’s Hispanic Heritage Month commemorations;

(2) recognizes the numerous contributions that these Latin-American countries have made;

(3) looks forward to closer collaboration and stronger ties between the people of the Americas in confronting the many shared challenges in our hemisphere throughout the next 200 years.